

# Bioenergy Technologies Office 2021 Peer Review

## Catalytic Upgrading Session

Trevor Smith and Sonia Hammache, March 9 – March 12, 2021

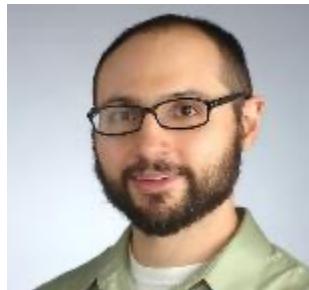


# Peer Review Agenda

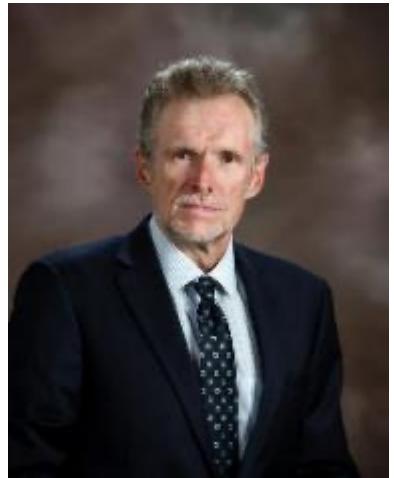
DAY 2 - TUESDAY, MARCH 9, 2021 PARALLEL TECHNOLOGY AREA PROJECT REVIEW SESSIONS			
Start Time EST	End Time EST	Presentation Topic	Moderator
		Gather, Tech Check, Networking Questions - 30 Min Ahead of Each Session	BETO Point of Contact (POC)
11:00 a.m.	2:35 p.m.	Advanced Algal Systems	Christy Sterner
10:45 a.m.	2:40 p.m.	Feedstock Technologies	Mark Elless
10:30 a.m.	5:10 p.m.	Biochemical Conversion and Lignin Utilization	Ian Rowe
10:20 a.m.	3:30 p.m.	Performance-Advantaged Bioproducts, Bioprocessing Separations, and Plastics	Gayle Bentley
10:00 a.m.	2:10 p.m.	Catalytic Upgrading	Trevor Smith
10:15 a.m.	4:45 p.m.	Agile BioFoundry Consortium	Jay Fitzgerald
9:45 a.m.	4:20 p.m.	Organic Waste	Beau Hoffman
11:00 a.m.	3:05 p.m.	Data, Modeling, and Analysis	Alicia Lindauer

# Catalytic Upgrading Review Panel

Name	Affiliation	Previous Peer Review Experience
Dr. Jesse Bond	Syracuse University	2019 Panel
Dr. Terry Mazanec	Independent Consultant (prior Velocys, BP)	New This Year
Dr. Cory Phillips	Phillips 66	2019 Panel
Dr. Jeffrey Scheibel	Independent Consultant (prior Procter & Gamble)	2017 Panel and 2019 BC and PABP Panels
Dr. Qing Shao	University of Kentucky	New This Year



# Conversion Program - Catalytic Upgrading Team



**Kevin Craig**  
Conversion R&D  
Program Manager



**Trevor Smith**  
Technology Manager



**Sonia Hammache**  
Technology Manager



**Nichole Fitzgerald** - Feedstocks  
Technologies Program Manager



**Andrea Bailey** - A&S  
Technology Manager



**Jesse Glover**  
Session Coordinator,  
Project Support



**Ben Simon**  
Project Support

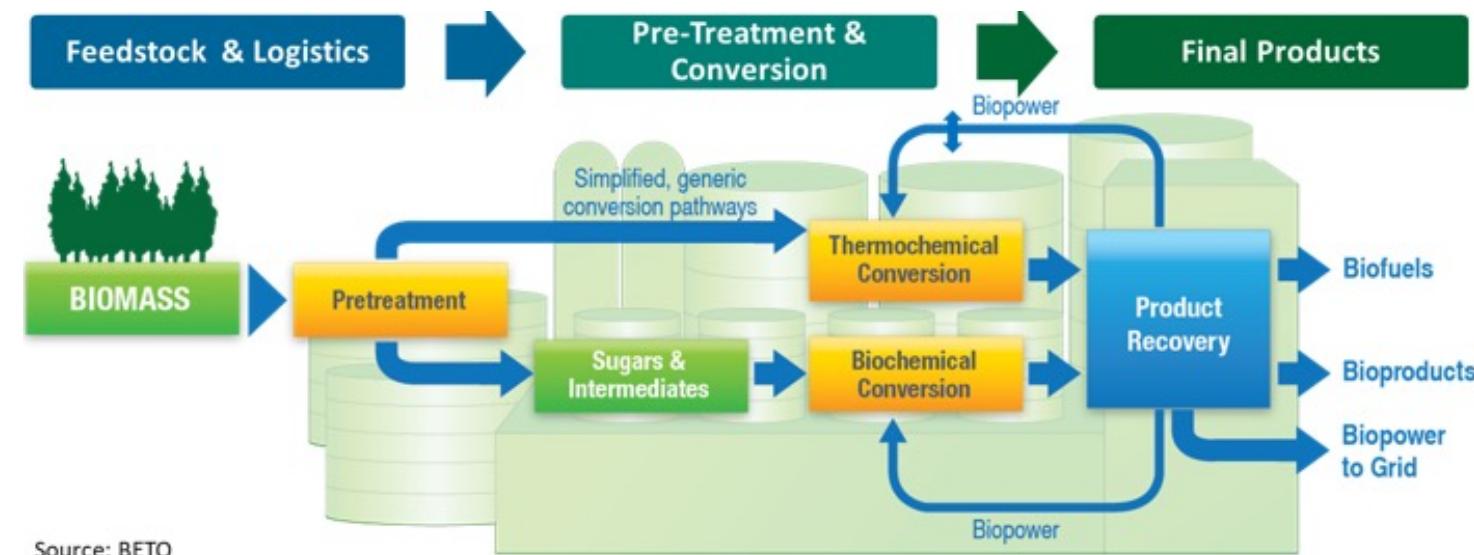
**Thank you to  
former team  
members!**



**G. Jeremy Leong**  
*\*no longer BETO*

# Conversion R&D Program – Goals, Approach, Targets

- **Conversion R&D Goal:** Develop efficient and economical technologies to convert biomass and waste feedstocks into energy-dense liquid transportation fuels, bioproducts, chemical intermediates, and biopower
- **Conversion Approach:** Exploring a variety of conversion technologies that can be combined into pathways from feedstocks to products
- **Performance Target:** By 2021, complete the research necessary to enable an integrated technology pathway verification at engineering scale in 2022 of a process that yields a mature modeled MFSP of \$3/GGE or less for production of a hydrocarbon biofuel/coproduct, with a minimum 60% reduction in GHG emissions relative to currently predominant fuel.



# Catalytic Upgrading – Key Challenges and R&D Needs

- Achieving R&D goals within pathways utilizing catalytic technologies will require:
  - Decreasing the time and cost to develop novel, industrially relevant catalysts
  - Increasing yields from catalytic processes
  - Improving catalyst lifetimes
  - Reducing risks associated with process scale up
  - Leveraging a multiscale computational framework to accelerate technology development
  - Analytical methods development

Key Catalytic Bioenergy Processes	Challenges due to Biomass Composition
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Catalytic Upgrading of Biological Intermediates</li><li>• Synthesis Gas Upgrading</li><li>• Catalytic Fast Pyrolysis</li><li>• Catalytic Upgrading of Aqueous/Gaseous Waste Streams</li><li>• Catalytic Hydroprocessing</li><li>• Lignin Deconstruction and Upgrading</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• High oxygen content → Broad reaction space</li><li>• Diverse chemical functionalities → Competing reactions</li><li>• High water content → Degradation of catalyst supports</li><li>• Impurities (S, N, alkali metals, Cl, etc.) → Poisoning</li><li>• Multiple states and compositions (solid, liquid, or gas)</li><li>• Complex, heterogeneous mixture → Difficult to model</li></ul>

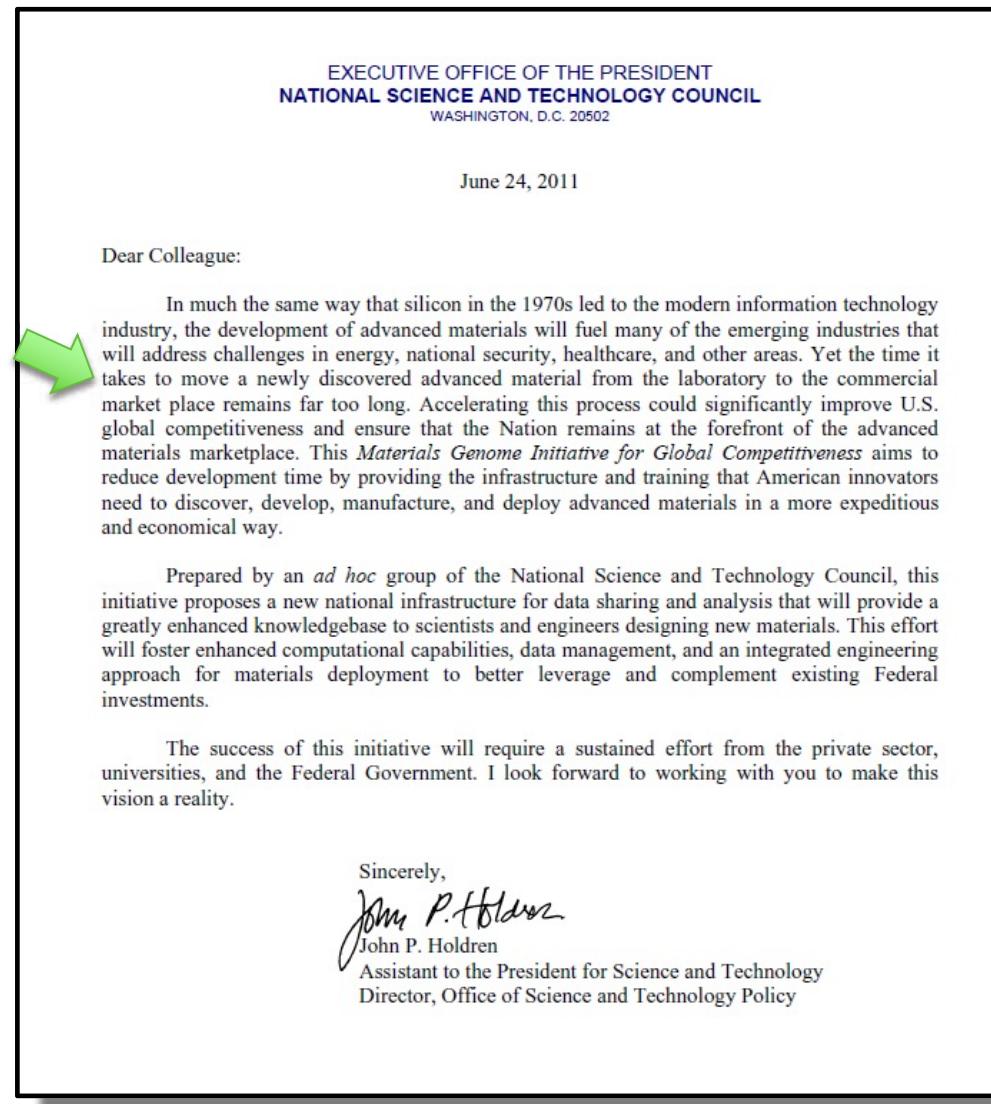
# Catalytic Technology Area – Agenda Overview

Time	Topic
Tuesday	High temperature Catalytic Upgrading
Wednesday	Low temperature Catalytic Upgrading, Electro-catalytic upgrading, Enabling Technologies
Thursday Morning	Enabling Technologies
Thursday Afternoon	Directed Funding Awards (DFA)
Friday	Funding Opportunity Announcements (FOA) Projects

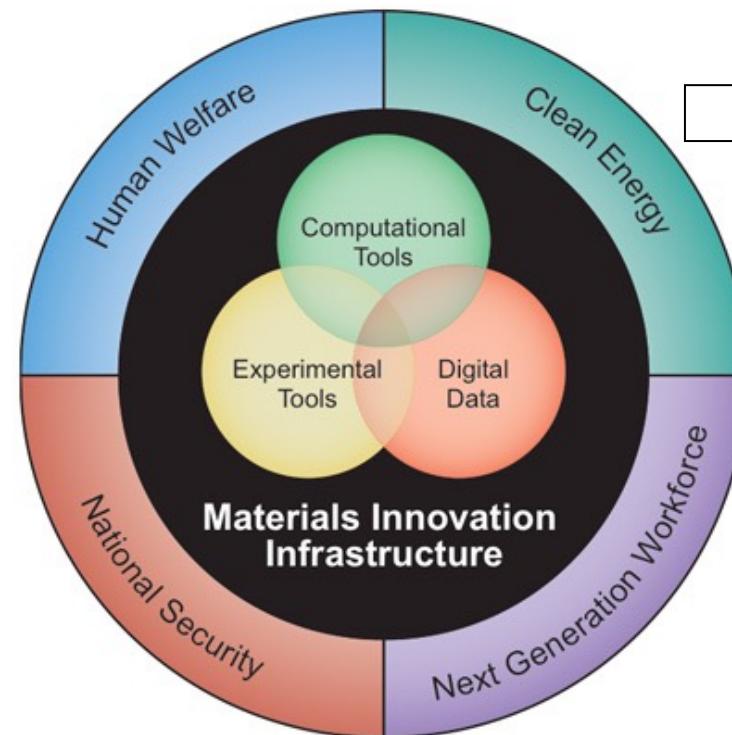
- **Annual Operating Plan (AOP) Projects**
  - Annual cycle for targeted proposals from our National Lab partners
  - Only National Labs can compete for this funding
  - ALL Chemical Catalysis for Bioenergy (ChemCatBio) consortium presentations fall under the AOP category
- **Funding Opportunity Announcements (FOA) Projects**
  - Topic-specific proposals from external applicants to support advancement of BETO goals
  - Typically, open to all (industry, academia, national labs\*)
  - Required minimum recipient provided cost share

# Historical Context for an Energy Materials Network

- Presidential initiative from 2011- Materials Genome Initiative (MGI)
- Addresses concerns that “the time it takes to move a newly discovered advanced material from the laboratory to the commercial market-place remains far too long.”
- Areas include Materials for National Security, Materials for Human Health and Welfare, Materials for Clean Energy Systems, etc.



# 2016: EERE develops EMN in response to MGI

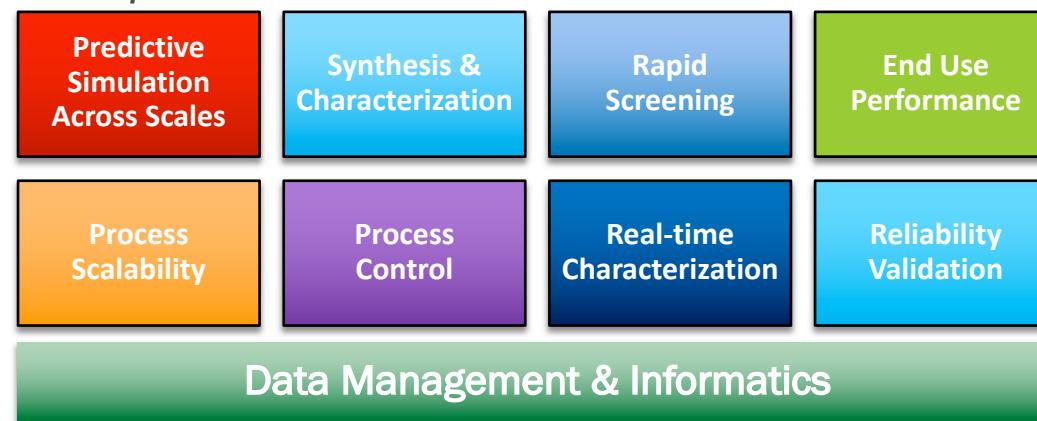


**MGI - Framework**



**Energy Materials Network**  
U.S. Department of Energy

Coordinated resource network with a suite of capabilities for advanced materials R&D



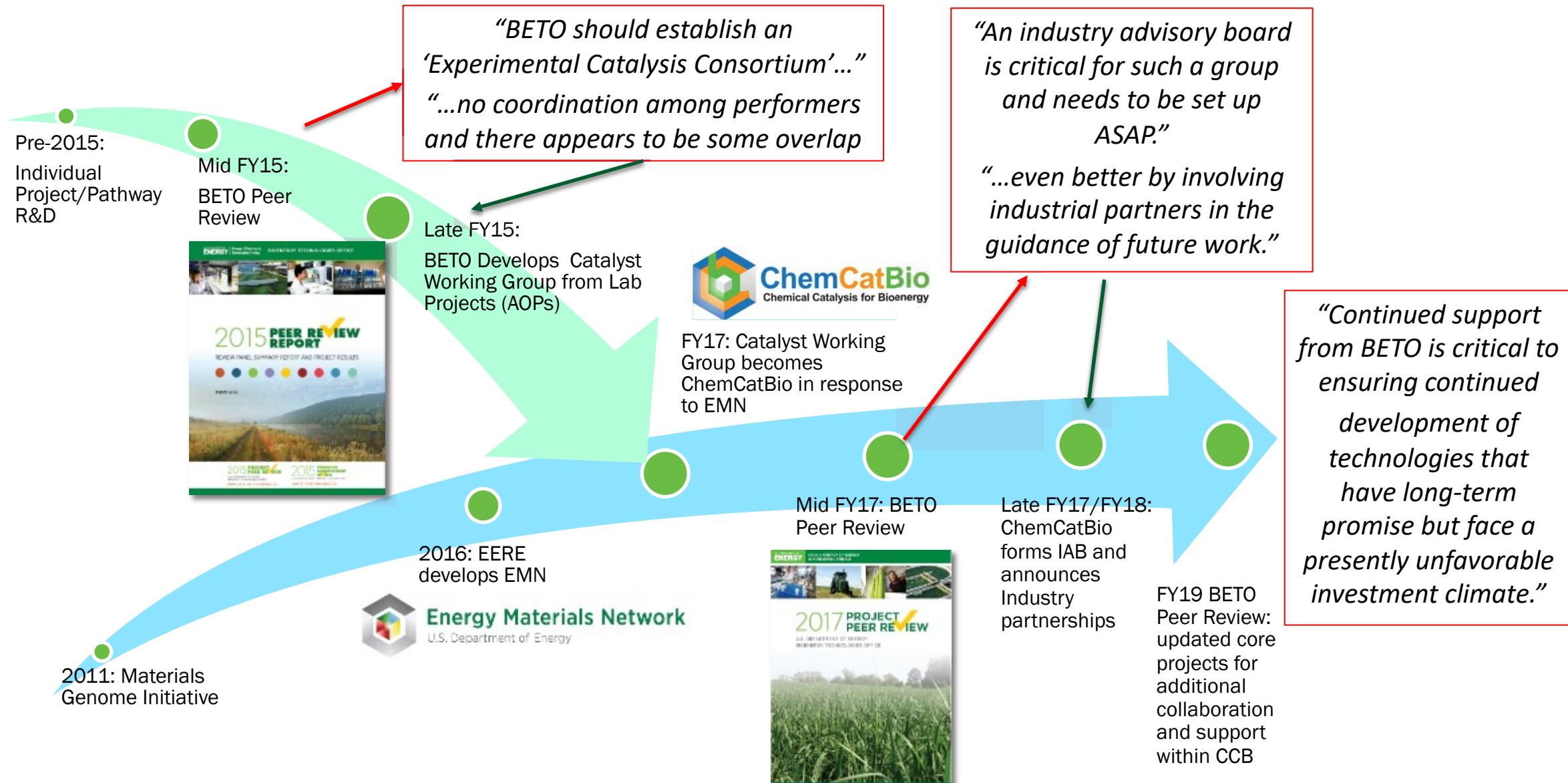
**Materials Design  
& Synthesis**

**Functional  
Design**

**Process Scale-Up  
& Qualification**

*New Material Innovations for Clean Energy 2X Faster and 2X Cheaper*

# Merging Responses at Different Levels Created ChemCatBio



# Fast Forward to 2021 – ChemCatBio

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- **Consortium Continues to Evolve**
  - Reorganized Catalytic Technologies based on peer review and industry feedback
  - Improved Coordination; joint milestones between technologies and enabling projects
  - Expanded collaborations with other BETO consortia (FCIC, Separations, Co-Optima)
- **Focus on Industry Relationships**
  - Industry Advisory Board (IAB) interactions
  - Launched additional Directed Funding Opportunities
  - Continued outreach to encourage partnerships
    - [www.chemcatbio.org](http://www.chemcatbio.org), webinar series, newsletter, ACS sessions
- **Upcoming Decisions (2021-2022)**
  - New ideas based on industry feedback
  - Critical decisions related to research targets
  - Welcome feedback on future directions



# ChemCatBio Projects – FY21

*Integrated and collaborative portfolio of catalytic technologies and enabling capabilities*

## Catalytic Technologies

**Catalytic Upgrading of Biochemical Intermediates**  
(NREL, PNNL, ORNL, LANL)

**Upgrading of C1 Building Blocks**  
(NREL)

**Upgrading of C2 Intermediates**  
(PNNL, ORNL)

**Catalytic Fast Pyrolysis**  
(NREL, PNNL)

**Electrocatalytic CO<sub>2</sub> Utilization**  
(NREL, will present not scored here)

## Enabling Capabilities

**Advanced Catalyst Synthesis and Characterization**  
(NREL, ANL, ORNL)

**Consortium for Computational Physics and Chemistry**  
(ORNL, NREL, PNNL, ANL, NETL)

**Catalyst Deactivation Mitigation for Biomass Conversion**  
(PNNL)

## Cross-Cutting Support

**ChemCatBio Lead Team Support (NREL)**

**ChemCatBio DataHUB (NREL)**

## Industry Partnerships (Phase II Directed Funding)

**Opus12 (NREL)**

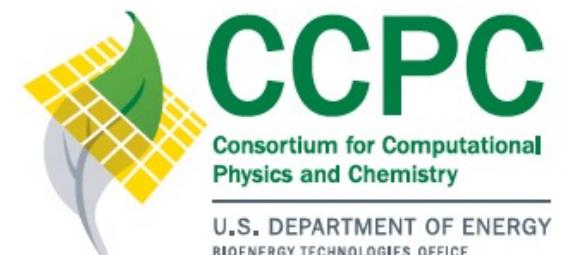
**Visolis (PNNL)**

**Sironix (LANL)**

**CCPC led Directed Funding:  
3 new industry partnerships  
starting in early 2021**

# Additional Conversion AOP Projects

- Analytical Development and Standardization for Biomass-Derived Thermochemical Liquids (NREL, PNNL, ORNL)
  - Enabling projects supporting industry needs
- Enabling Complex Feedstock for Biopower Combustion and Autothermal Pyrolysis (ORNL, NREL, NETL, with industry partners)
  - FY18 lab call to address Congressional budgetary language for “early-stage research and development projects to develop innovations in the use of biomass, municipally-derived biosolids, and sorted municipal solid waste **to improve the economic potential of biopower production and use in the United States.**”
    - Topic Area 2: Modifications to Consortium for Computational Physics and Chemistry (CCPC) Reactor Models



# Projects from Funding Opportunity Announcements

- **FY15 and FY17 Biomass Research and Development Initiative (BRDI) – OSU and UT**
  - Joint Effort between the USDA and DOE, funding supports the development of a biomass-based industry in the United States. Technical areas include: Feedstocks development, **Biofuels and biobased products development**, and Biofuels development analysis.
- **FY18 BioEnergy Engineering for Products Synthesis (BEEPS) - USF and NCSU**
  - **Better utilization of waste streams** (e.g. lignin, CO<sub>2</sub>, and biosolids), improving organic and inorganic catalysts to increase conversion efficiency and decrease costs for lignocellulosic biomass conversion, and creating high-value performance-advantaged bioproducts that can improve viability of fuel production from biomass and waste feedstocks.
  - Topic Area 1 - **ChemCatBio collaborations aimed at tackling fundamental challenges in catalysis** - catalyst characterization, catalyst development and R&D for producing engineering-relevant/technical catalysts. CCB National Laboratory partner required.
  - Topic Area 2 - **Novel alternatives to anaerobic digestion** that have the potential to compete economically with feeds of one dry ton/day or less. Alternatives with potential for direct production of higher value products from **wet waste feedstocks**.

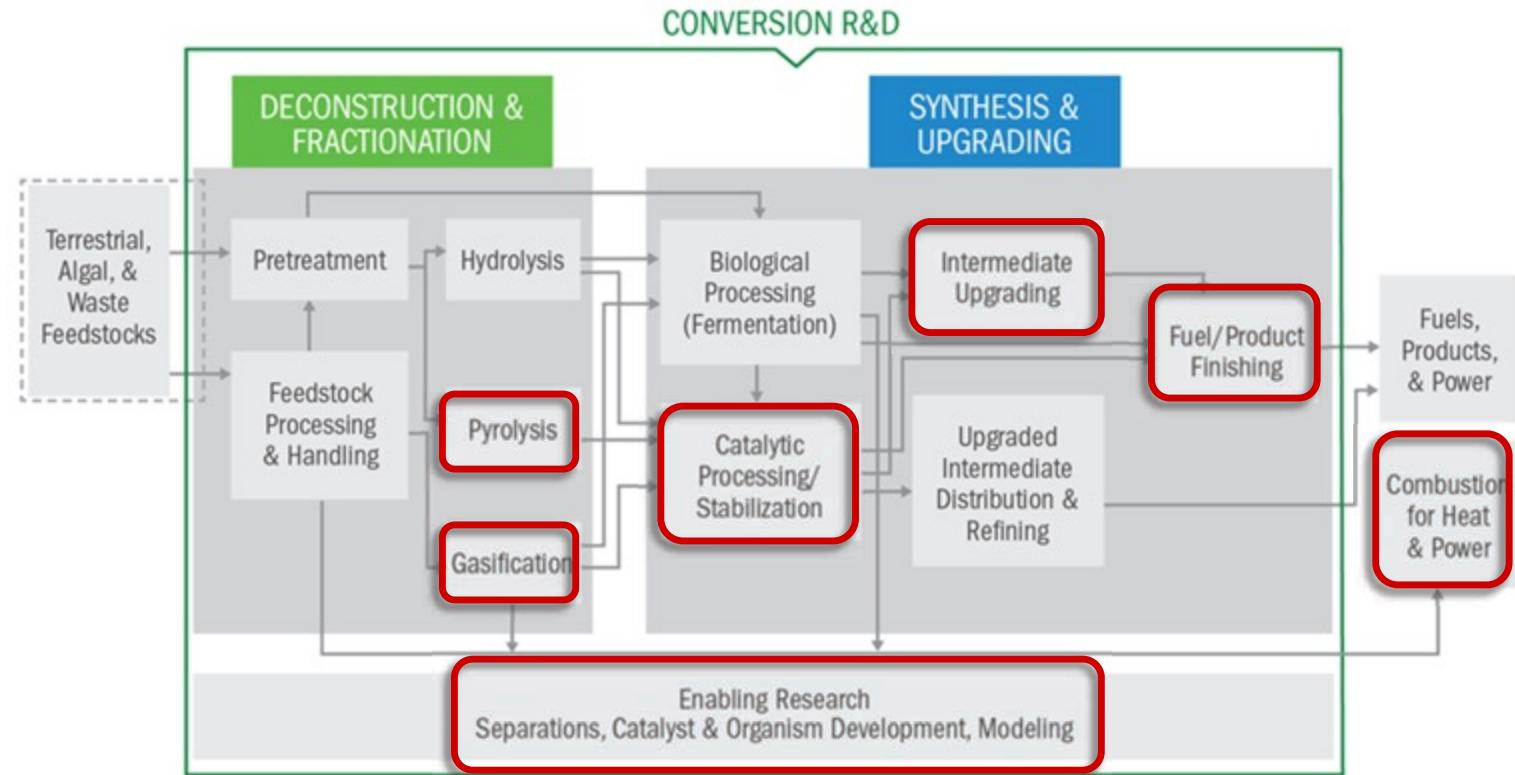


# Budget Breakdown – Catalytic Upgrading

Type	FY20 - FY22
ChemCatBio AOPs	\$34.78MM
ChemCatBio Industry DFAs (Phase I and II)	: \$3.93MM
FOA Projects (all Pre-FY20)	: \$7.21MM
TOTAL Session	\$45.92MM

## FOA Project breakdown:

- Ohio State University: \$1.5MM
- University of South Florida: \$1.84MM (\$600K to NREL)
- University of Tennessee: \$1.4MM
- North Carolina State University: \$2.47MM (\$1.225MM to NREL)



# Catalytic Upgrading - Recent Successes

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- 3 ChemCatBio technologies licensed by industry
  - Ethanol to jet fuel
  - Dimethyl ether to high-octane gasoline
  - Atomic Layer Deposition
- Industry leveraging unique capabilities (CCB, CCPC DFAs)
  - R&D100 Special Recognition in Green Tech (Sironix)
  - New industry partners Catalyxx, Pyran and Forest Concepts leveraging modeling for scale up plans
- Accelerating catalyst-process development cycle through publicly available tools:
  - The CatCost™ Tool continues to expand, showing high utilization rates by researchers  
<https://catcost.chemcatbio.org/>
  - Data Hub project released the Catalyst Property Database: A centralized, searchable compilation of published density functional theory adsorption data:  
<https://cpd.chemcatbio.org/>
- Expanded research pathways with waste feedstocks and new co-products (FOA projects)

# Housekeeping - Review Process

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# Presentations and Review Structure

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- Project Overview - provides context and history
  - Some Catalytic Technologies within CCB will present additional Techno-Economic Analyses info for additional context
- Review Criteria Sections (equal weighting)
  - Management
  - Approach
  - Impact
  - Progress and Outcomes
- Summary
- Additional Support Slides (list of publications, patents, etc.)

# Detailed Catalytic Upgrading Agenda

## Day 2 - TUESDAY, MARCH 9, 2021

Start Time EST	End Time EST	CATALYTIC UPGRADING			
		Presentation	Organization	Presenter	
9:30 AM	10:00 AM	GATHER, TECH CHECK, NETWORKING QUESTIONS - 30 MIN AHEAD OF EACH SESSION			
10:00 AM	2:10 PM	Catalytic Upgrading	Conversion Program	Trevor Smith and Sonia Hammache	
10:00 AM	10:30 AM	Catalytic Upgrading Technology Area Introduction	BETO	Trevor Smith and Sonia Hammache	
10:30 AM	11:00 AM	Overview of Chemical Catalysis for Bioenergy Consortium	NREL	Josh Schaidle	
11:00 AM	11:35 AM	ChemCatBio Data Hub	NREL	Kurt Van Allsburg	
11:35 AM	11:45 AM	BREAK			
11:45 AM	12:20 PM	Thermochemical Platform Analysis	NREL	Abhijit Dutta	
12:20 PM	12:50 PM	LUNCH (REVIEWER LUNCH TOGETHER, PUBLIC ON THEIR OWN)			
12:50 PM	1:25 PM	Upgrading of C1 Building Blocks	NREL	Dan Ruddy	
1:25 PM	1:35 PM	BREAK			
1:35 PM	2:10 PM	Catalytic Upgrading of Pyrolysis Products	NREL	Michael Griffin	
2:10 PM	2:40 PM	Comment Review/Daily Debrief	Reviewers		

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## Catalytic Upgrading Session

Trevor Smith and Sonia Hammache, March 9 – March 12, 2021



# Housekeeping - Reminders

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# Detailed Catalytic Upgrading Agenda - Day 3

## Day 3 – WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10, 2021

9:30 AM	10:00 AM	GATHER, TECH CHECK, NETWORKING QUESTIONS - 30 MIN AHEAD OF EACH SESSION		
10:00 AM	2:00 PM	Catalytic Upgrading	Conversion Program	<i>Trevor Smith and Sonia Hammache</i>
10:00 AM	11:05 AM	Catalytic Upgrading of Biochemical Intermediates	NREL/PNNL/ORNL/LANL	<i>Richard Elander - NREL</i>
11:05 AM	11:10 AM		BREAK	
11:10 AM	11:50 AM	Upgrading of C2 Intermediates	PNNL	<i>Rob Dagle</i>
11:50 AM	12:25 PM	Liquid Fuels via Upgrading of Indirect Liquifaction Intermediates	ORNL	<i>Zhenglong Li</i>
12:25 PM	12:55 PM	LUNCH (REVIEWER LUNCH TOGETHER, PUBLIC ON THEIR OWN)		
12:55 PM	1:15 PM	Electrocatalytic CO <sub>2</sub> Utilization	NREL	<i>Jack Ferrell</i>
1:15 PM	1:25 PM		BREAK	
1:25 PM	2:00 PM	Catalyst Deactivation Mitigation for Biomass Conversion	PNNL	<i>Huamin Wang</i>
2:00 PM	2:30 PM	Reviewer Wrap Up and Debrief	<i>Reviewers</i>	

# Bioenergy Technologies Office 2021 Peer Review

## Catalytic Upgrading Session

Trevor Smith and Sonia Hammache, March 9 – March 12, 2021



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# Detailed Catalytic Upgrading Agenda - Day 4

Day 4 – THURSDAY, MARCH 11, 2021

Start Time EST	End Time EST	CATALYTIC UPGRADING			
		Presentation	Organization	Presenter	
9:30 AM	10:00 AM	GATHER, TECH CHECK, NETWORKING QUESTIONS - 30 MIN AHEAD OF EACH SESSION			
10:00 AM	3:25 PM	Catalytic Upgrading	Conversion Program	<i>Trevor Smith and Sonia Hammache</i>	
10:00 AM	10:50 AM	Consortium for Computational Physics and Chemistry	ORNL/NREL/PNNL/ANL/NETL	<i>Jim Parks II - ORNL</i>	
10:50 AM	11:35 AM	Advanced Catalyst Synthesis and Characterization	NREL/ANL/ORNL	<i>Susan Habas - NREL</i>	
11:35 AM	11:45 AM	BREAK			
11:45 AM	12:20 PM	Analytical Development and Standardization for Biomass-derived Thermochemical Liquids	NREL	<i>Jack Ferrell</i>	
12:20 PM	12:50 PM	LUNCH (REVIEWER LUNCH TOGETHER, PUBLIC ON THEIR OWN)			
12:50 PM	12:55 PM	Directed Funding Awards Introduction	BETO	<i>Sonia Hammache</i>	
12:55 PM	1:30 PM	Low Pressure Hydrogenolysis Catalysts for Bioproduct Upgrading w/Visolis	PNNL/Visolis	<i>Karthi Ramasamy - PNNL</i>	
1:30 PM	1:40 PM	BREAK			
1:40 PM	2:15 PM	Catalytic Process Intensification of Bio-Renewable Surfactants Platform w/Sironix	LANL/Sironix	<i>Cameron Moore - LANL</i>	
2:15 PM	2:50 PM	Catalyst Development for Selective Electrochemical Reduction of CO <sub>2</sub> to High-value Chemical Precursors w/Opus-12	NREL/Opus-12	<i>Frederick Baddour - NREL</i>	
2:50 PM	3:25 PM	Enabling Complex Biomass Feedstock for Biopower Combustion and Autothermal Pyrolysis	ORNL/NREL/NETL	<i>Jim Parks II - ORNL</i>	
3:25 PM	3:55 PM	Reviewer Wrap Up and Debrief	<i>Reviewers</i>		

# Directed Funding Awards (DFA) - CRADA Partnerships

Phase I - Late FY18-2020

Company	Labs	CCB Capabilities	Product
GEVO (mixed oxide)	NREL, ANL, ORNL	Characterization	C <sub>3</sub> -C <sub>4</sub> olefins
Vertimass	NREL, ANL, ORNL	Characterization	Hydrocarbon fuels
Lanzatech (Terephthalic Acid)	PNNL	Synthesis, Characterization, Evaluation, Modeling	Terephthalic acid
GEVO (Tactical Aviation Fuels)	LANL	Synthesis, Characterization, Evaluation, Modeling	Cyclobutanes
ALD Nanosolutions and JM	NREL	Synthesis, Characterization, Evaluation, Modeling	Hydrocarbons
Lanzatech (Fuel Fractions)	PNNL	Evaluation, Modeling	Jet fuel
<b>Visolis</b>	NREL	Synthesis, Evaluation	Diols
<b>Opus-12</b>	NREL	Synthesis, Characterization, Evaluation	Alcohols
<b>Sironix</b>	LANL	Synthesis, Characterization, Evaluation, Modeling	Oleo-furan surfactants



Phase II - FY20



# Directed Funding Awards (DFA) - CRADA Partnerships: Phase 2

Directed Funding Awards	Phase 1	Phase 2
Visolis and PNNL: Low Pressure Hydrogenolysis Catalysts for Bioproduct Upgrading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Catalyst identification and optimization</li><li>Catalyst stability 100 hrs.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Catalyst impurity tolerance</li><li>Extruded catalyst stability 500 hrs.</li></ul>
Sironix and LANL: Catalytic Process Intensification of Bio-Renewable Surfactants Platform	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Selective reduction &amp; furan coupling catalysts</li><li>Optimize catalyst for scale up</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Alternative coupling catalysts for new tail options</li><li>Develop and test catalysts for furan-tail coupling approaches</li></ul>
Opus 12 and NREL: Catalyst Development for Selective Electrochemical Reduction of CO <sub>2</sub> to High-value Chemical Precursors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Cathode catalyst development</li><li>Reactor integration and catalytic evaluation</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Scale up of cathode catalyst</li></ul>



# Additional Conversion AOP Project

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- Enabling Complex Feedstock for Biopower Combustion and Autothermal Pyrolysis (ORNL, NREL, NETL, with industry partners)
  - FY18 lab call to address Congressional budgetary language for “early-stage research and development projects to develop innovations in the use of biomass, municipally-derived biosolids, and sorted municipal solid waste to improve the economic potential of biopower production and use in the United States.”
    - Topic Area 2: Modifications to Consortium for Computational Physics and Chemistry (CCPC) Reactor Models
- Project began in mid 2019 (poster review at 2019 BETO Peer Review)



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Day 5 - FRIDAY, MARCH 12, 2021

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10:00 AM	10:05 AM	Introduction to Catalytic Upgrading Projects from FOAs	<i>BETO</i>	<i>Trevor Smith</i>	
10:05 AM	10:40 AM	Biomass Gasification for Chemicals Production Using Chemical Looping Techniques	<i>The Ohio State University</i>	<i>Andrew Tong</i>	
10:40 AM	11:15 AM	Intensified Biogas Conversion to Value-Added Fuels and Chemicals	<i>University of South Florida</i>	<i>John Kuhn</i>	
11:15 AM	11:25 AM	BREAK			
11:25 AM	12:00 PM	Condensed Phase Catalysis Technology for Fuels and Carbon Products	<i>University of Tennessee - Knoxville</i>	<i>David Harper</i>	
12:00 PM	12:35 PM	Catalytic Upgrading of Carbohydrates in Waste Streams to Hydrocarbons	<i>North Carolina State University</i>	<i>Sunkyu Park</i>	
12:35 PM	1:05 PM	LUNCH (REVIEWER LUNCH TOGETHER, PUBLIC ON THEIR OWN)			
1:05 PM	2:05 PM	Reviewer Wrap Up and Debrief	<i>Reviewers</i>		

# Projects from Funding Opportunity Announcements

- **FY15 and FY17 Biomass Research and Development Initiative (BRDI) – OSU and UT**
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- **FY18 BioEnergy Engineering for Products Synthesis (BEEPS) - USF and NCSU**
  - **Better utilization of waste streams** (e.g. lignin, CO<sub>2</sub>, and biosolids), improving organic and inorganic catalysts to increase conversion efficiency and decrease costs for lignocellulosic biomass conversion, and creating high-value performance-advantaged bioproducts that can improve viability of fuel production from biomass and waste feedstocks.
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